

Legislators met in a brief special session on April 6 and have since disagreed with the governor over the budget. Governor Stitt has signed two of the three bills the legislature sent to his desk but has not called the Board of Equalization to meet to certify the expected \$416 million revenue shortfall.

Agencies will likely have to start making cuts next week if Governor Stitt and legislators don't come to an agreement. The legislature wants no cuts to the remaining 2020 budget due to the pandemic. Gov. Stitt has advocated for cuts to the 2020 and 2021 budget.

Meanwhile, your OAFP team continues to work on the Health Preparedness Coalition with the latest effort concentrating on liability protections for health care workers. We have sent information to the governor for a possible executive order and may seek legislation.

Also last week House leadership moved several bills, seemingly priority bills, direct to the floor calendar in preparation for if they return to regular session in May. It remains to be seen if they will have time for any policy bills. Some of those included:

- SB1201- Requires all health care entities to use the state health information exchange.
- HB3479 - Requires the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to obtain legislative approval for any managed care requests for proposals or contracts for delivery of state-purchased health care.
- HB3477 – Reauthorizes the Supplemental Hospital Offset Payment Program
- SB1276 – Increases the amount of training the Physician Manpower Training commission does for rural and underserved from 50 percent to 75 percent.
- SB1290 – Expands the definition of assault on a health care worker.
- SB1823 – Regulates non-licensed midwives.
- SB1525 – Fixes a problem with osteopathic background checks created last session in a reciprocity measure.

The Senate made committee assignments for some bills as well and authorized virtual committee meetings should the need arise.

Lastly, Wednesday, April 15, is the last day to provide written comment on the governor's plan to expand Medicaid. Here is a link to the [application](#) and [notice](#). If you have concerns, you can submit comments by email at federal.authorities@okhca.org or in the box at the bottom of this Oklahoma Health Care Authority [webpage](#). We can provide talking points if you need assistance with submitting a written comment.

Provisions of the governor's Sooner Care 2.0, which would be implemented a year after expansion if the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services approves them, include:

- Language that leaves the door open for a limited prescription drug formulary (a change from current Medicaid statute)
- Elimination of some long-term care and early and period screening, diagnostic, and treatment benefits
- \$8 copayments for non-emergency use of the emergency department
- Transition to managed care for the expansion population
- Waive retroactive eligibility and hospital presumptive eligibility
- Work requirements and additional eligibility requirements